

Harmful Algal Blooms and Cyanobacteria: A National Perspective

Candice Hopkins
Hydrologist

USGS
230 Collins Road
Boise, ID 83702
Telephone: 208-387-1331
Email: chopkins@usgs.gov

Harmful algal blooms (HABs) and cyanobacteria proliferation in surface water can contaminate drinking and irrigation water supplies, and adversely impact human and animal health in Idaho and throughout the United States. Increased public awareness of HABs and recently released EPA drinking-water health advisories for cyanotoxins highlight the importance of water-quality monitoring to learn more about site-specific drivers of HABs. Several approaches are available to help monitor the spatiotemporal variability and environmental factors driving the occurrence of HABs.

This presentation provides a brief background on HABs, bloom forecasting techniques, case studies, and sampling strategies from throughout the United States.